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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is uniquely positioned to
3 be a national hub for the clean technology economy, with a
4 virtuous innovation life cycle that furthers equity, climate
5 justice, and economic development; and

6 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois passed the Clean Energy
7 Jobs Act and the Reimagining Electric Vehicles Act, leading
8 the region in decarbonization and clean energy in the
9 manufacturing revolution; and

10 WHEREAS, The American Rescue Plan included a \$1 billion
11 Build Back Better Regional Challenge administered by the U.S.
12 Economic Development Administration (EDA) and the U.S.
13 Department of Commerce to boost economic recovery from the
14 pandemic and rebuild American communities, including those
15 grappling with decades of disinvestment; and

16 WHEREAS, The BBB Regional Challenge will provide
17 transformational investments to develop and strengthen
18 regional industry clusters across the country, all while
19 embracing equitable economic growth, creating good-paying
20 jobs, and enhancing U.S. global competitiveness; and

21 WHEREAS, The Economic Development Administration received

1 529 applications from across the United States, including 10
2 from Illinois; and

3 WHEREAS, On December 19, 2021, the Economic Development
4 Administration announced their 60 finalists, which includes
5 one remaining application from Illinois; and

6 WHEREAS, The remaining Illinois application is the Clean
7 Tech Economy Coalition led by mHUB and supported by a
8 19-member coalition from industry, universities, city and
9 county government, national laboratories, environmental
10 organizations, and community-based organizations and is
11 seeking between \$75-\$99 million in federal funding; and

12 WHEREAS, The Clean Tech Economy Coalition is focused on
13 six core principles spread across the entire State, including
14 (1) an Entrepreneurship Clean Tech Innovation Center, (2)
15 driving equitable economic growth through clean energy
16 technology innovations, commercialization, and small business
17 development, (3) decarbonizing manufacturing and expanding the
18 supply chain through retooling, coordination, and market
19 incentives to support the clean tech industry, (4)
20 understanding future workforce trends and coordinating state,
21 county, and city resources toward building capacity for
22 emerging skill requirements, (5) grid modernization and energy
23 storage with focus on downstate coal-impacted communities and

1 urban settings, (6) equitable investment electric charging and
2 infrastructure deployment throughout southern Cook County and
3 Chicago; and

4 WHEREAS, More than 150 organizations and individuals
5 expressed strong support for the Clean Tech Economy Coalition
6 during the first round, including the University of Illinois,
7 Northwestern University, Southern Illinois University, the
8 Illinois Science & Technology Coalition, the Illinois
9 Manufacturers' Association, the Illinois Manufacturing
10 Excellence Center, World Business Chicago, Fermilab, the
11 Chicago Urban League, West Side Forward, the Illinois
12 Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity, the City of
13 Chicago, Cook County, Choose DuPage, Lake County Partners, and
14 numerous federal, State, and local officials; Argonne National
15 Laboratory will be supporting these six projects as a
16 technical assistance lead; and

17 WHEREAS, The Clean Tech Economy Coalition must submit its
18 final application for the BBB Regional Challenge by March 15,
19 2022, which must demonstrate a financial commitment from
20 Illinois partners for the transformative project; and

21 WHEREAS, The City of Chicago, Cook County government, and
22 private sector have already provided financial commitments to
23 the Clean Tech Economy Coalition; and

1 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois is an important stakeholder
2 and supporter of this Clean Tech Economy Coalition project and
3 is committed to helping secure funding over the next four
4 years; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
6 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
7 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that we express our support for the
8 Clean Tech Economy Coalition's application to the BBB Regional
9 Challenge and our intent to support this important project
10 with funding in the State budget; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
12 delivered to mHUB and the Clean Tech Economy Coalition for
13 inclusion in the BBB Regional Challenge as a show of our
14 commitment to the Economic Development Administration and U.S.
15 Department of Commerce.